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PRESS RELEASE

USAID renovates primary school in Bosilovo

USAID's Primary Education Project, in cooperation with the Municipality of Bosilovo and the school board of "Kiril I Metodij" primary school, organized a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the successful completion of the project, which included improvements to the windows, floors, electricity and facade. The American people are investing \$3,000,000 for school renovations in Macedonia.

"This project is one of 40 school renovation activities that have been carried out by USAID's Primary Education Project so far. By 2011 USAID will have renovated over 100 schools, which is nearly one-third of the primary schools in Macedonia," said Tim Pruett, Executive Officer at USAID Macedonia, at the event. "Through this work, with the support of the American people, many students and teachers will benefit. We have created a friendly, safe and attractive environment to help students succeed in their studies," added Keith Prenton, the director of USAID's Primary Education Project.

The renovation component of the USAID Primary Education Project supports the creation of better learning environments and decentralization of responsibility for school facilities to municipal governments. The project also works to increase the access and use of information technology and to improve the quality of math and science education in Macedonian primary schools.

The USAID Primary Education Project (PEP), implemented by the Academy for Educational Development (AED), works with all public primary schools in Macedonia. The project seeks to improve the quality of instruction and increase employment skills of students. The overall goal of the USAID Education Program is to strengthen education in Macedonia and to support decentralization efforts, as Macedonia seeks entrance to the European Union.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

The American people, through USAID, have invested nearly \$500 million in Macedonia since 1993. USAID is implementing projects that create jobs, reduce corruption, and prepare Macedonian students for the workforce. These initiatives improve the quality of life and support Macedonia's transition to a stable and prosperous democracy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <http://macedonia.usaid.gov>.